Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/4180.Y1/DSM/BCVD/JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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দ্বিক্রাটি fe Application of: Huang, et al.

Serial No.:

09/902,518

Confirmation No.: 7428

Filed:

July 10, 2001

For: Method and Apparatus for

Treating Low K Dielectric Layers

to Reduce Diffusion

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 2824

Examiner: M. Lebentritt

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on November 13, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date

Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 13, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 13, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/4180.Y1/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.